Preliminary Amendment

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 as presented in the underlying International Application No.

PCT/EP2004/052519 have been canceled, and new claims 23-44 have been added to adapt the claims of the underlying international application to U.S. practice. Appropriate amendments were made to the specification and abstract for the same purpose. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

The drawings are amended to add a line showing the feature indicated by reference numeral 16, as described in paragraph 0014 of the Specification. No new matter has been added.

A supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith for the Examiner's consideration.

In view of the above amendment, issuance of a prompt and favorable Official Action is respectfully requested.

Dated: February 16, 2007

Respectfully submitted

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